

called for me at the hotel, causing thereby  
frightful agitation among the hotel attendants and guests,  
and spent a morning driving me round the city—I had  
already made the correct formal calls and had left a wreath  
on Victor Emmanuers tomb in the Pantheon. He  
slightly embarrassed me by making me sit on the right-hand  
in the carriage, as almost all the kings did—I suppose  
on the theory that I was a kind of ex-sovereign myself; I  
always wished they wouldn't do it, but after one or two trials  
I made no further protest, as it always became evident  
that if I insisted on sitting on the left-hand I should  
cause a fuss, which was just exactly what I was desirous of  
not doing. He took me to the cavalry school, where I was  
greatly impressed by the riding of his officers, and  
especially by the way in which they took their horses down well-  
nigh perpendicular banks. Evidently he knew the army  
and its needs just as he knew the civil and social needs of  
the country; and in fact I do not see how Italy could have a  
more intelligent, devoted, and sympathetic ruler. I told  
him I wished we had a few men like him in the Senate! He  
asked us—Mrs. Eoosevelt and I—to drive out with him and  
the Queen and spend a day and a couple of nights at  
their country place not far from Borne, saying that they  
would dig out some badgers—I think it was badgers—but we  
had so many other engagements and were so pressed for  
time that, as he asked me to say frankly whether it would be  
convenient or

not, I begged off, stating that we would  
infinitely rather  
go with him to his place, but that it would  
cause us serious  
inconvenience in keeping our other  
engagements; and he at  
once acquiesced, being as considerate as  
possible. In a way,  
I should have liked to see more of him; but  
after all I am  
doubtful whether it would have been worth  
while, for even  
with the pleasantest and kindest king there  
must of neces-  
sity be a little that is artificial in association  
with a civilian  
foreigner, and especially a civilian foreigner  
from a huge  
overseas democracy. To have gone with him  
on a hunt,  
where we should have had a real object in  
common, or to  
have met him while I was President, when  
also we would